

Ultrasound systems are now being designed to be more ergonomically comfortable for the user to operate. Often, the ultrasound system is wheeled to the patient's bedside for imaging. The sonographer must then be able to hold the probe in contact with the patient while operating the ultrasound system controls and viewing the images produced on the system image display. To enable the sonographer to assume a comfortable position while doing this, one which is primarily focused on the patient, it is desirable for the system controls and display to be movable to a comfortable operating and viewing position. For instance, US pat. 6,669,639 (Miller et al.) describes the ultrasound system shown in FIGURE 1. The display monitor 20 of this system is mounted on a 2-arm articulating mount 30 on the upper surface of the system cart 12, which enables the monitor to be moved from side to side of the ultrasound system cart and to be rotated toward the sonographer or patient for easy viewing. US pat. 6,709,391 [application serial number 10/155,459, entitled "DIAGNOSTIC ULTRASOUND SYSTEM CART WITH LATERALLY ARTICULATING CONTROL PANEL,"] describes the ultrasound system shown in FIGURE 2, which uses a flat panel display 16 mounted at a nominal position above the system control panel 18. The control panel 18 of this system can move from one side of the system cart to the other and can rotate or swivel toward the sonographer for comfortable bedside operation. It would be desirable for the flat panel display 16 to be similarly movable to a comfortable viewing position. An optimal design would enable the display 16 to be positioned over a wide range of lateral viewing positions and heights, and to be easy for the sonographer to reposition with one hand.